

EL Accommodations Activities, and Assessments



Effective Accommodations for EL Students:

Effective accommodations indicate changes to how the content is taught, made accessible, and/or assessed. It is not changing the content being assessed or having lower expectations of ELL students.

- Simplify text and directions into shorter concise statements
- Address and, when possible, reduce cultural and language barriers so content is being assessed, not language proficiency

Accommodations to offer:

- Give extended time for projects
- Give instructions/directions in writing and orally
- Provide summaries of text or study guides
- Highlight key vocabulary for ALL assignments
- Indicate page numbers in textbook where answers are found
- Use graphic organizers
- Provide passages in lower reading levels that cover equal content
- Shorten assignments
- Allow journal writing in native language - can be read by student and translated when necessary
- Arrange for a peer buddy
- Provide small group instruction
- Use visuals
- Read tests aloud

Level 1 Activities

- Build picture dictionaries based on content

Picture Dictionaries (click below for subject)

Fall

Winter

Spring

Farm

School

Time

Vehicle

Weather

- Make picture collages
- Create pictorial graph/chart

Examples of maps/charts/graphs

- Use body language

Tucker Signing

Level 2 Activities

- Labels pictorial charts with key vocabulary or concepts
- Labels pictures with single words or phrases (vocabulary cards & flip books) Flip book templates
- Sequences events (time order)
- Uses invented spelling
- Utilizes graphic organizers Graphic organizers
- Accept 'yes' or 'no' and either/or responses (use response cards: yes/no, agree/disagree, I'm not sure, etc.)

Level 3 Activities

- Classify and give reasons in simple sentences
- Give simple explanations
- Describe event/topic
- Outline topic using time sequence, main idea, and supporting details

Fiction Summary Chart

Nonfiction Summary Chart

- Formulate questions - QAR stems
- Compare/Contrast information
Square Venn diagram
- Conduct simple interviews

Level 4 Activities

- Reasoning expressed more fluently
- Expresses opinions
- Criticizes and justifies - Take A Stand
- Uses persuasion
- Answers how and why questions - QAR stems
- Predicts the outcome of events
- Drafts and edits assignments

Level 5 Activities

- On par with native English speaking peers

Lessons and Activities for Teaching English Learners

- Sample activities and lessons from the book *99 Ideas and Activities for Teaching English Learners with the SIOP Model* by MaryEllen Vogt and Jana Echevarria

Alternative Assessment Options

- Create a grading contract
- Allow students to give oral answers
- Allow drawings and demonstrations
- Reduce multiple choice options
- Allow open book tests
- Use anecdotal records as a form of assessment
- Present assessment to student prior to testing to allow them to highlight unknown vocabulary. Modify vocabulary prior to test.

EL Reading Strategies by Grade Level

EL Students and Reading in Kindergarten

EL Students and Reading in First Grade

EL Students and Reading in Grades 2-3

EL Students and Reading in Grades 4-12